ID NO:174, wherein the isolated peptide inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets, and wherein the isolated peptide has a three dimensional structure complementary to the three dimensional structure of the second peptide.

Add new claim 11 as follows:

11. (New) An isolated peptide of 3 to about 100 amino acid residues in length which inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets, the isolated peptide being identified by:

selecting a library of test peptides, each test peptide being of 3 to about 100 amino acid residues in length;

exposing the library of test peptides to a sample peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:174; and

selecting a test peptide from the library that binds to the sample peptide, wherein the selected test peptide is thereby identified as an isolated peptide which inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets.

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1-6, 8 and 10 have been amended. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended. New claim 11 has been added. Therefore, the claims now under consideration are claims 7, 9 and 11, as amended and added. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims be reconsidered and withdrawn in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, Rejections

On page 3 of the office action, the Examiner rejects claims 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking written description, and on page 4 of the office action, the Examiner further rejects claims 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly not enabled.

During the telephonic interview with the Examiner, it was emphasized by the Examiner that the claims should define the

compositions by their structure, and correlate that structure to function. By defining the claimed compositions as an antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, and as an isolated peptide, as well as defining the peptide composition as a product by process, applicants believe that they have addressed the issue of scope of the claims in regard to written description and enablement. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that these §112 rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection

The Examiner also rejects claims 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Miller et al. (Br J Haematol 74:313-319 1990), since monoclonal antibody C-34 inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets and "would be expected to bind to SEQ ID NO:174". Applicants point out that claim 7 has been amended to specifically exclude monoclonal antibody C-34 and therefore respectfully request that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants maintain that the claims as amended and added herein define patentable subject matter. A notice of allowance is therefore requested. Should any issues remain which can usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

May 21, 2001
Date

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7. (Twice Amended) An antibody, other than monoclonal antibody C-34, or an antigen-binding fragment thereof [A molecule] that inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets[, the molecule being identified by:

determining whether a molecule] and that binds to an isolated peptide [comprising] consisting of an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:174[; and

screening a molecule that binds to the isolated peptide to determine whether the screened molecule inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets].

9. (Twice Amended) An isolated peptide of 3 to about 100 amino acids residues in length [molecule] capable of binding to [an isolated peptide, wherein the isolated peptide comprises] a second peptide having an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:174, wherein the isolated peptide [molecule] inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets, and wherein the isolated peptide [molecule] has a three dimensional structure complementary to the three dimensional structure of the [isolated] second peptide.

11. (New) An isolated peptide of 3 to about 100 amino acid residues in length which inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets, the isolated peptide being identified by:

selecting a library of test peptides, each test peptide being of 3 to about 100 amino acid residues in length;

exposing the library of test peptides to a sample peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:174; and

selecting a test peptide from the library that binds to the sample peptide, wherein the selected test peptide is thereby identified as an isolated peptide which inhibits ristocetin induced aggregation of platelets.